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Item 3 (b) of the agenda of the Budgetary
and Finance Committee

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Draft report of the Budgetary and Finance Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Heather DOWSETT (New Zealand)

CHAPTER III. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

B. Revised budget estimates for 1992-1993

ANNEX

The Governing Council,

Having considered the revised 1992-1993 biennial budget estimates of the United Nations Development Programme and the funds administered by the United Nations Development Programme,

Takes note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (DP/1992/39)

1. Approves the cost adjustments reflected in the revised estimates;

2. Approves the continuation of one core post (at the P-5 level) for the Humanitarian Programme until the end of the 1992-1993 biennium and decides to apply the same procedure to the existing D-2 post in the Humanitarian Programme on a transitional basis;

3. Decides, in this context, to review the staffing level of the Humanitarian Programme, stressing the need for a clear division of responsibility between the Department for Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme Humanitarian Programme, bearing in mind decisions 92/... and 92/....;

4. Welcomes the Administrator's 1994-1995 budget strategy, including the proposed volume reduction of $30-40 million; and in order to give priority to the allocation of resources for programming and to protect fully the integrity of the United Nations Development Programme, strongly urges the Administrator to aim to achieve the maximum possible savings;

A

5. Requests the Administrator, in this regard, to take into account the following issues in particular:

(a) The need to ensure that regional service centres do not introduce a new bureaucratic layer nor duplicate headquarters functions;

(b) the need to reduce significantly the ratio of General Service to Professional staff, bearing in mind the introduction of improved management information systems technology;

6. Requests the Administrator to report fully to the Governing Council at its fortieth session on action taken in response to decision 91/46, and in particular to paragraph 12 of that decision;

7. Requests the Administrator to include in his report the possibility of closing field offices or making more use of regional offices;

B

8. Takes note of the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 17 to 21 of document DP/1992/39 and stresses the importance of common system-wide approaches on personnel entitlement issues;

9. Approves on a pilot basis the Administrator's proposals contained in paragraphs 25 to 29 of document DP/1992/40 relating to short-term non-permanent contracts;

10. Requests the Administrator to consult with the International Civil Service Commission and in appropriate inter-agency forums on the implementation of the pilot arrangement;

11. Requests the Administrator to provide an interim report in 1993 and a comprehensive report in 1994 on experience gained and on his consultations with the International Civil Service Commission.

C

12. Takes note of the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 22 and 23 of document DP/1992/39 and stresses the importance of common system-wide approaches on job-classification issues;

13. Decides that the Administrator's reclassification proposal contained in paragraphs 31 and 32 of document DP/1992/40 should have no adverse financial implications and should not lead to grade creep;

14. Also takes note of the fact that the proposal is an integral and critical part of the Administrator's budget strategy;

15. Approves on a pilot basis, for one year, the Administrator's proposals relating to reclassification;

16. Decides to review the implementation of the pilot arrangement, including its continuation, and reclassifications made, at its fortieth session (1993);

17. Endorses the Administrator's proposals in paragraphs 42 and 43 of document DP/1992/40, specifically relating to increased transparency of the nature of the services rendered by United Nations Development Programme field offices to non-United Nations Development Programme financed programmes and the associated costs;

18. Reiterates its request, contained in decision 91/46, for an analysis of appropriate sources of funding for these elements to be presented at its fortieth session (1993);

19. Approves, in principle, the Administrator's proposals relating to the Office for Project Services contained in paragraphs 49, 51 and 59 of document DP/1992/40;

20. Requests the Administrator to consider further the possibility of a differentiation in the treatment of the Office for Project Services budgetary and extrabudgetary staff;

21. Requests the Administrator to report on these matters at its fortieth session (1993), also taking into account the wider review called for by decision 92/....;

22. Requests the Administrator to include management service agreements expenditure within the data on the net flow of resources provided in annex 1 of the annual review of the financial situation, and to provide an analysis of the effects of the composition of these resources on the United Nations Development Programme field structure and on the (governance/management) of the United Nations Development Programme country programmes.

23. Takes note of the Administrator's proposals in paragraph 64 of document DP/1992/40, relating to the establishment of extrabudgetary posts in the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office;

24. Requests the Administrator to keep under review the question of savings through mergers of the administrative and other functions of the trust funds.